Arm-twisting methods used to boost excise collection

4256. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have not been able to meet excise collection in normal circumstances and excise department has been adopting arm-twisting methods to boost collections;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) steps being taken by Government to curb coercive action being taken against excise payers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (c) Revenue collections from Central Excise duties during 2004-2005 was to the tune of Rs. 98632 crore (provisional) as against the Revised Target of Rs. 100000 crore (excluding cess administered by other Departments). The reasons for shortfall are reduction of duties of petroleum products in June, 2004 and August, 2004 and restructuring of duties in the textile sector during 2004-2005 regular Budget. No arm-twisting methods were adopted for boosting the Central Excise revenue collections.

Use of UINs in stock market transactions

4257. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) how many Unique Identification Numbers (UINs) have been issued so far;

(b) whether UINs are unique to every investor or does it change with every transaction of equity and Mutual Fund;

(c) whether UINs are issued by the companies whose enquiries are traded in the stock market or is it issued by the SEBI; and

(d) to what extent have UINs brought about transparency in the stock market transactions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) As on April 28, 2005, 65,446 corporate and 2,69,110 individuals have been issued Unique Identification Number (UIN) under Securities and Exchange Board of India, (SEBI) [Central Database of Market Participants] Regulations, 2003 (MAPIN Database).